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HS/HC 900

Item 11

Draft, Sherman Kent, Memo for the record, 14 Jan 63,  
"Second Trip to Paris, November 25-27, 1962."

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*Draft  
Dictated*

14 January 1963

*19-20 connection added in May 1972*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Second Trip to Paris, November 25-27, 1961

1. I received word from Cline while dining with the Director at 1330 indicating that [ ] or I would have to leave for Paris that evening to brief De Gaulle on the removal of the Soviet MRBM and IRBM's. Shortly before 1400 I ~~asked~~ excused myself, asked [ ] to come out of the room with me and informed him of Cline's request. [ ] and I proceeded to Cline's office where I agreed to undertake the trip. The nature of the mission as explained by Cline was to do for De Gaulle what R. J. Smith had done for Adenaur, namely, to explain the dismantling of missile sites, the moving of missiles and missile associated equipment to the ports, putting it on ships, and sailing it home. It was a wealth of photographic evidence which made a very convincing case.

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2. I did not <sup>There</sup> question the above description of the mission. I figured that the administration did not want De Gaulle to hear of the briefing of Adenaur and realized that he, himself, had not received similar treatment. I asked Cline whose messenger I was and if the State Department and Bohlen realized what was going to happen. Cline indicated to me that the decision to send a briefer had been taken at a White House meeting that morning at which the Director was present and that he, Cline, would be in touch with George Ball as soon as he could get a call through to find if the Department had official knowledge of the mission. *Cline had not reached Ball by the time I had to leave the office.*

3. I called Jack Smith's office to get a fill-in of his briefing to Adenaur, a list of the relevant pictures, etc. I found that Jack was at a meeting in the State Department. [ ] produced the photographs from NPIC and some rough notes of R.J.'s performance. [ ] arranged all of the papers and got a reservation on the TWA 7:30 p.m. flight for Idlewild. I left the building about 1630 to pack. A courier with the documents met me at the airport and the two of us flew to Idlewild in the CIA plane. The flight left and arrived on schedule. We were met at Orly at 8:00 a.m. (local) and proceeded to the Embassy.

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*\* This date was wrong when I dictated the memo. I should have corrected it before doing the memo in final form - which I never did.*

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19-20 ✓

SUBJECT: ~~2~~ Second Trip to Paris, November 1961

4. The morning papers had the story of Castro's having written a letter to the SYG indicating that the IL-28's were going to be removed. One of my first pieces of business was to call the CIA Watch Office by phone and ask for confirmation of this piece of news.

5. At 0945 I saw Bohlen, and it was not until this moment that I became aware of the real ~~missile~~ reason for my being in Paris. Bohlen showed me the telegram of instructions and the circular message indicating the forthcoming Presidential press conference. The matter, of course, had nothing to do with the removal of missiles, but was concerned entirely with the presence of Soviet forces in Cuba and the IL-28's.

6. After my meeting with Bohlen, I went back to the office [redacted] soon came up to ask about the final paragraph of the message to Bohlen designated for [redacted]. He asked specifically whether it was possible to show the photographs of the removal of the missiles to the NAC. Since I had had no instructions whatever with respect to appearing before the NAC, I sent a telegram to Washington asking authorization to show the pictures. This was granted by phone later on in the afternoon.

7. There was a mild problem of coordinating Bohlen's and my visit to De Gaulle with [redacted] appearance before the NAC. This was straightened out a little after noon ~~with De~~ when De Gaulle agreed to see Bohlen at 1530. The NAC meeting was accordingly scheduled for 1700. Bohlen and I arrived at the outer office at the Elysee at 1530. Bohlen went in without me and spent 15 minutes or so then I was invited in and gave a 12 minute briefing which I had put together very largely from memory. It consisted of three parts:

- a. The Soviet forces in Cuba. The SAM crews, <sup>and</sup> the composite military units.
- b. The dismantling of the MRBM and IREB's, and
- c. Something about the IL-28's. ~~2/1~~

Since this latter matter was by now over the dam, I skipped it. I showed De Gaulle the pictures including the extraordinary color print of the SAM site which he ~~greatly~~ appreciated.

(greatly)

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SUBJECT: Second Trip to Paris, November 21-22, 1961

8. At the NAC I met [ ] in his office. We rehearsed the way we would play it. He was to make the presentation as per instructions and then offer to have me answer questions as they should come from the floor. This we did. I fielded half dozen questions as per the attached telegram.

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